

Message Text

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USDOC FOR BEWT

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: BTRA, UR
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF A.T. & T. EXECUTIVES TO THE USSR

REF: (A) MOSCOW 7071, (B) STATE 80151

1. REPRESENTATIVE OF CHASE MANHATTAN BANK CALLED E/C COUNSELOR APRIL 14 ABOUT VISIT OF MESSRS. DEBUTTS, BROWN AND PROCKNOW. HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT AS OF APRIL 13 A.T. & T. HAD NO INDICATION OF ANY RESPONSE FROM EMBASSY TO THEIR REQUEST (REF B). CHASE REPRESENTATIVE ALSO SAID THAT THE THREE EXECUTIVES ARE ABOUT TO SUBMIT VISA APPLICATIONS BUT HAVE NOT YET CONTACTED SOVIET MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS OR OTHER SOVIET ORGANIZATION ABOUT POSSIBLE SPONSORSHIP OF VISIT.

2. IF DEPARTMENT HAS NOT ALREADY PROVIDED INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REF A TO A.T. & T. AND WESTERN ELECTRIC, EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THIS BE DONE ASAP. AT SAME TIME WE REQUEST DEPARTMENT ALSO PROVIDE THE NEW INFORMATION SUPPLIED BELOW.

3. ON APRIL 13 COUNSELOR DISCUSSED PLANNED VISIT WITH
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CHIEF OF AMERICAN SECTION OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (AYKAZYAN). AFTER INQUIRING NATURE OF VISIT, I.E., WHETHER BUSINESS OR TOURISTIC, AYKAZYAN EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE THAT ONE SOVIET ORGANIZATION ACT AS SPONSOR FOR THE VISIT. HE SUGGESTED THAT MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, AS COUNTERPART TO A.T. & T., WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE FOR THIS. IF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

WOULD SPONSOR VISIT, AYKAZYAN SAID, SCST WOULD ACT IN CONJUNCTION WITH IT IN HELPING TO ARRANGE DESIRED MEETINGS.

4. COUNSELOR SPOKE APRIL 14 WITH DEPUTY CHIEF OF FOREIGN RELATIONS SECTION NOVIKOV OF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, CALLING ATTENTION TO OUR LETTER OF APRIL 12. COUNSELOR ASKED FOR EARLY APPOINTMENT TO DISCUSS VISIT AND URGED THAT MINISTRY FAVORABLY CONSIDER ACTING AS SPONSOR. NOVIKOV, IN RESPONSE, MENTIONED GOOD WORKING LEVEL CONTACTS IN PAST WITH A. T. & T. AND SAID HE PERSONALLY SAW VALUE IN THE PROPOSED VISIT. QUESTION OF SPONSORSHIP WILL BE DISCUSSED NEXT WEEK, AND NOVIKOV ASKED FOR ANY SPECIFICS WHICH WE COULD PROVIDE ABOUT VISIT.

5. IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO US IN ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE THIS VISIT IF WE COULD BE PROVIDED AS MUCH DETAILED INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE ABOUT THE PLANS AND OBJECTIVES OF MESSRS. DEBUTTS, BROWN AND PROCKNOW IN COMING TO USSR IN JUNE. THIS WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF IT COULD BE PROVIDED TO MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS IN NEXT WEEK'S MEETING TO DISCUSS THE VISIT. TOON

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